

of Powell vs. Texas which may change our courts' methods of dealing with chronic drunkenness offenders. If the Court rules in favor of Powell, it will be held unconstitutional to sentence alcoholics to correctional institutions. The resulting increased need for clinical facilities for treatment of these alcoholics will have to be met by the health care system.

The establishment of such centers as proposed in H.R. 15758 will provide a portion of the resources needed for meeting the crucial treatment needs of the alcoholics in this country. However, we respectfully submit that the present bill meets only a small portion of the total requirement. Treatment facilities also should be supported in conjunction with other health care units such as general hospitals and health departments. In addition, consideration must be given to the following, if a truly comprehensive public health approach to the problem is to be successfully initiated:

1. Research in the etiology, treatment, rehabilitation and prevention of alcoholism. Research in the cause, effect and prevention of alcohol problem. Training of appropriate professionals to apply new and existing knowledge in the control of alcoholism and alcohol-related problems.

2. Appropriate measures to direct national attention to alcoholism as an important as an important medical-social problem—measures which will encourage the utilization of existing knowledge such as that concerning the treatment of alcoholics, and techniques of education of special groups about alcohol and alcoholism.

3. Efforts to insure that consideration of community alcoholism problems be a part of every comprehensive health plan.

4. Full use of the potential resources and services of governmental agencies.

5. Of particular importance in the implementation of Federal programs to deal with alcoholism and alcohol problems is the newly organized National Center for the Prevention and Control of Alcoholism in the National Institute of Mental Health. This Center should be given authority, finances, and responsibility for the coordination, implementation and development of comprehensive programs.

Unless and until each of these important program elements are fully implemented, efforts to cope with this serious health problem will be proportionately less than adequate. Therefore, although we support these provisions, we also must emphasize that a truly comprehensive program to deal with alcoholism must include a variety of concerted approaches on a multitude of fronts.

Again, we appreciate this opportunity to present our views on this important health legislation. We respectfully request your consideration of our recommendations. Thank you.

Mr. ROGERS. Thank you.

Dr. Carter?

Mr. CARTER. No questions.

Mr. ROGERS. In the program there in Palm Beach County, could you just give me a brief summary of, for instance, the housing conditions in the camps, and what you have been able to do with this through the migrant program?

Dr. BRUMBACK. Yes, sir. We have over 100 camps. We actually have in Palm Beach County more agricultural migrants than in any other county in the United States. We have over 27,500, according to the last count. These people live in the county, all over the county, in all sorts of housing. Through the Migrant Health Act we have been able for the first time to acquire a staff through which we have actually been able to get into all of these places, inspect them and upgrade the housing.

As a result, environmental health situation for the migrants in Palm Beach County is immeasurably better now than it was. However, there is a great deal left to be done, and we have to continually provide supervision and maintenance of this program in order to keep the benefits that we have achieved.

Mr. ROGERS. What about your mobile unit? Don't you have a unit that can go to the field where the migrants are, with a doctor and nurse and so on?